



**CARIBOU-TARGHEE NATIONAL FOREST
PALISADES RANGER DISTRICT
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO**

2012

ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

BURNS CANYON C&H ALLOTMENT

CONTACT US PRIOR TO STOCKING THE ALLOTMENT

PERMIT INFORMATION

Season of use begins June 1 and ends October 10. Permits read as follows:

Permittee

Theron McGarry

Permitted Number

27 head

All cattle must be your owned livestock and branded with registered brands as indicated in your Term Grazing Permit. For the Burns Canyon Allotment the brands are:

VO Left Rib or VO Left Hip or 3O Left Rib or  Left Hip

GRAZING SCHEDULE

The following grazing rotation is to be followed for the 2012 season:

Sequence

Graze 1st

Graze 2nd

Graze 3rd

Units

Warm Springs (from June 1 to July 15)

Burns Canyon

Blacks Canyon

ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT Cattle were turned on the allotment June 1 in 2011. Cattle were removed from the allotment October 10. Utilization was within the standards allowed for the allotment. The Warm Springs Unit is BLM land. The BLM is going to require a proper permit for the Warm Springs Unit. Recreation managers with the BLM are very concerned about cattle on the Warm Springs unit after July 15. Cattle are moved off of the unit but some are missed or some come back around the fences. While they are not creating over use issues there are social issues with recreationists who expect the area to be free of cattle after July 15. We will discuss ways to mitigate the possibility of cattle returning to the Warm Springs Unit at the 2012 spring meeting. The current management of this allotment is being reviewed for its sufficiency with the National Environmental Policy Act.

Proper Use Criteria

These utilization guidelines apply to native and desirable nonnative vegetation as recorded at the end of the grazing period.

The following rates for forage utilization apply to the total amount of forage utilized. The use rates include wildlife grazing as well as domestic livestock. Once proper use of the forage is met the cattle will be moved to the next unit or off of the allotment.

Upland Forage Utilization

Vegetation type	Percent Utilization
Herbaceous vegetation including grasses	55%
Shrubs	35%

Riparian Forage Utilization and Stubble Height

- A. The 30% utilization levels of current year's growth for key woody plant species.
- B. On the Burns Canyon and Blacks Canyon Units a four inch (4") stubble height will be applied to key species along the Hydric Greenline and a three inch (3") stubble height will be applied to key species in the Aquatic Influence Zones.**
- C. On the Warm Springs Unit a six inch (6") stubble height will be applied to key species along the Hydric Greenline (HGL) and a four inch (4") stubble height will be applied to key species in the Aquatic Influence Zones.**

Herdin

Cattle will be moved in a timely fashion so the prescribed use rates are not exceeded. Cattle that tend to congregate or persist to graze riparian areas are to be moved first. These moves need to start before proper use is met. The unit will be periodically checked to insure all cattle have been moved to the next unit. Round-up in the fall must start early enough so that all of the cattle are off the allotment at the end of your permitted season.

Salting

Salt will be used as a tool to improve livestock distribution. No salt will be placed within ¼ mile of water, or as far from water as practical. Because of the geographic characters of the Burns Canyon Allotment it will be difficult to meet the standard requirement of not salting within ¼ mile of water. Please choose salting locations that will have the least amount of impact to the land. Also salt will not be placed next to roadways or forest system trails. Move salt blocks often or split the blocks in half so to lighten the impact on any one location. Under no circumstance place more than one salt block at one location. Manage your salting late in the season so as little salt as possible is left after the cattle leave the allotment.

Disposal of Dead Livestock

Dead livestock need to be moved at least 100 feet from system roads and trails, and water sources.

Range Improvements

Maintenance of existing range improvements is the responsibility of the grazing permittee. All range improvements must be maintained and in operation prior to cattle entering the unit. The cattle guard in Burns Canyon was repaired with a replacement deck insert last fall. We need to look at fence options in both Blacks Canyon and Burns Creek along the Ranger Trail this spring. The Ranger trail out of Burns Creek is allowing cattle to return to the Warm Springs Unit.

Allotment Monitoring

During management of the allotment this summer we would like you to document dates and livestock numbers as you enter and exit the various units. Also stubble height should be recorded as the livestock leave the units and general remarks pertaining to management of the unit.

COORDINATION & COOPERATION

Motorized Access

The Palisades Ranger District is closed to cross country motorized travel. As a grazing permittee you may be issued a motorized travel permit to allow you to travel cross country by motor vehicle to maintain range improvements (fences). Have the permit in your possession when traveling cross-country. This permit is good for no more than two trips per week. For situations where extended periods of cross-country travel are needed, such as fence construction, you will be issued a separate permit on a case-by-case basis.

Noxious Weeds

The Palisades Ranger District will again have a crew treating weeds on the District this summer. Continue to look for new weed infestations on your allotment and report them to us promptly. Hay or straw entering the National Forest needs to be "Certified Weed Free".

Wolf Management

You need to comply with the most current rules concerning wolf management. To receive the latest information on wolf management you can contact the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. Any problems with wolves will be reported to Wildlife Services as well as Palisades Ranger District as soon as possible.

Fire

All wildfires on the allotment will be evaluated and the appropriate management actions will be taken. Some wildfires will be managed to improve forest and ecosystem health. You will be notified if fires are being managed for resource benefits near your allotment.

INFORMATION

In addition to this grazing plan the folder contains: An allotment map, a page of general grazing instructions and an Actual Use Record. Keep the record current with allotment information and return it to us at the end of the grazing season.

This Annual Operating Instruction Document is part of your Term Grazing Permit. If a situation develops that require changes to this plan contact the District Ranger and obtain approval prior initiating changes or deviating from these instructions. If you have any questions about the plan or the allotment in general, contact us. The phone number for the Idaho Falls Office is 523-1412.

This plan has been reviewed by the permittee and the Palisades Ranger District and in combination with the permit and Allotment Management Plan will be the guide for this allotment for the 2012 grazing season.

/S/ Theron McGarry
Permittee

3/20/2012
Date

/S/ Robbert Mickelsen
ROBBERT MICKELSEN
District Ranger

3/21/2012
Date